

Vorontsov arrives in Baghdad

BAGHDAD (R) — Soviet First Deputy Foreign Minister Yuli Vorontsov arrived in Baghdad on Wednesday on the first leg of a three-nation Gulf tour to discuss ways to end the seven-year-old Iran-Iraq war. Soviet sources said Mr. Vorontsov was expected to meet Iraqi Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz during his three day visit to Iraq before he travels on to Kuwait and Tehran. The Soviet envoy visited both Baghdad and Tehran last June and again in July. On his last visit, he pressed the two sides to accept United Nations proposals to end the conflict. Diplomatic sources in the Gulf region have said Mr. Vorontsov was also likely to reassure Kuwait and Iraq that Moscow's improved commercial ties with Iran would not affect its support for the Arabs. The Soviet Union is Iraq's main arms supplier and has a friendship treaty with Baghdad. Iraqi officials and media have expressed disquiet at Moscow's ties with Tehran.

Jordan Times

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Cypriot envoy arrives with message

AMMAN (Petra) — An envoy of Cypriot President Spyros Kyprianou, Labour Minister Andrius Masioutas, arrived here on Wednesday on a three-day official visit to Jordan carrying a message to His Majesty King Hussein from President Kyprianou. Mr. Masioutas, in an arrival statement, paid tribute to His Majesty's leadership and his role in supporting peace efforts in the Middle East. He also said that the people and government of Cyprus follow with interest and appreciation the King's distinguished and intense efforts aimed at achieving just and durable peace in the Middle East. His Majesty's efforts, Mr. Masioutas said, have succeeded in securing support of the world community, including Cyprus, for holding an international peace conference on the Middle East. The Cypriot minister added that Cyprus, which is linked by close and strong relations with the Arab World, strongly condemns continuing Israeli aggression against Arab citizens in the occupied territories. Israel's rejection of the international peace conference, U.N. resolutions and expansionist policies are the main obstacles to peace in the region, Mr. Masioutas added.

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King sends good wishes to Turkey

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein on Wednesday sent a cable of good wishes to Turkish President Kenan Evren in which he congratulated him on the occasion of the anniversary of declaration of the Republic of Turkey. The King wished President Evren continuing good health and happiness and the Turkish people further progress and prosperity.

Soviets said to have promised increased Jewish emigration

TEL AVIV (R) — The Soviet Union has told the United States it will allow larger numbers of Jews to emigrate, sources in Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's office said on Wednesday. They said Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze told U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz in Moscow last week that between 12,000 and 13,000 Jews would leave this year and more would be granted exit visas in future. The Israeli sources, briefed by U.S. diplomats on Mr. Shultz's talks with Kremlin leaders, said the rise in emigration was not linked to any Israeli "concession" on an international Middle East peace conference, which Mr. Shamir strongly opposes.

Israeli soldiers get amnesty

TEL AVIV (R) — An Israeli army commander has reduced the sentences of three soldiers who were jailed for brutally beating a Palestinian in the occupied Gaza Strip, the newspaper Haaretz reported on Wednesday. The soldiers, jailed for three months by a military court, were released after 30 days because they were "good" soldiers and the man "provoked" them, an army official told the paper.

Fire put out at Saudi pipeline

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iraq said Wednesday its warplanes destroyed three tankers off the Iranian coast and economic and industrial targets in the Iranian mainland in a series of air raids that ended a week-long lull in the Gulf war.

Iraq ends lull in Gulf war with raids on tankers and land targets

juring several civilians."

But the Iranian media made no mention of ships being hit in the Gulf waters.

IRNA quoted a spokesman at the war information headquarters in Tehran as warning the Iraqi population to "stay clear of industrial and economic centers in Iraq to avoid getting hurt in Iranian reprisal attacks."

The agency quoted a spokesman as saying the jets mounted the almost simultaneous raids at 11 a.m. (0800 GMT), almost six hours after the last raid on ships in Iranian waters.

The agency quoted the recent raids were designed "to teach the charlatans of Iran not to use the revenues from oil exports to prolong the war" and launch further aggression against our land and people."

On the land front, Iraqi Defense Minister General Adnan Khairallah on Tuesday inspected forward positions held by three army corps covering Iraq's entire southern area.

Such inspections by Gen. Khairallah have in the past indicated Iran massing troops before

(Continued on page 4)

U.S. seeking allied support for trade embargo on Iran

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The United States has launched a campaign to enlist support from its Western allies for its trade embargo against Iran similar to that announced this week by President Ronald Reagan.

The State Department declared the U.S. embargo was a response not only to Iran's refusal to end the war with Iraq but also "part of a process of trying to contain Iran's support for terrorism and subversion."

The spokesman acknowledged that if the United States declines to purchase from Iran, "there are other buyers there who are ready," but added, "even though Iran may be able to sell its products elsewhere, at least this embargo will deny access to U.S. markets."

The 16-page State Department report on Iranian terrorism included a chronology of 56 terrorist incidents from 1980 to 1987 which the State Department blamed on Iran or its supporters.

The incidents ranged from India across the Middle East and Europe to Washington.

The 1979 seizure of the American embassy in Tehran and holding its personnel hostage for 444 days has been followed by terrorist activity "in a variety of form

and places," the State Department said, because, it added, "the government of Iran regards terrorism as an integral tool of its foreign policy, to be used when the opportunity seems propitious."

The State Department listed Iranian terrorist incidents in these broad groupings:

— Kidnapping in Lebanon, mostly by the Iranian-supported Hezbollah.

— Assassinations, successful and attempted, of anti-Khomeini Iranian dissidents in European cities and Karachi, Pakistan.

— Attacks against Arab and Islamic embassies, airline offices and other sites in India, Pakistan, the Middle East and Europe.

— Attacks against peacekeeping forces, including bombings of U.S. and French marines in Beirut.

— Airline hijackings.

The report said several countries have responded to Iranian terrorism by breaking diplomatic relations or closing Iranian installations, including Tunisia, France, Britain and the United States.

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Moscow revives hopes for superpower summit

Shevardnadze heads for U.S. with message from Gorbachev to Reagan and for talks with Shultz

Combined agency dispatches

SOVIET Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze left Moscow en route to Washington on Wednesday carrying a message from Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to U.S. President Ronald Reagan in what was seen as a Soviet initiative to breathe new life into efforts to arrange a summit between the two leaders.

Soviet officials said Mr. Shevardnadze left Moscow for Prague to attend a Warsaw Pact foreign ministers meeting there on Thursday and Friday before flying to Washington with Mr. Gorbachev's message.

A two-paragraph dispatch by the Soviet news agency TASS said Mr. Shevardnadze "will pay a working visit to Washington on Oct. 30-31."

"He will convey a message from Mikhail S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU (Soviet Communist Party) Central Committee, to U.S. President Ronald Reagan and con-

(Continued on page 4)

A U.S. official in Washington said Mr. Shevardnadze was coming to discuss a proposed superpower treaty to scrap intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF) and prospects for a third meeting between Mr. Reagan and Mr. Gorbachev.

The White House described the planned talks in Washington as a continuation of discussions Mr. Shevardnadze held in the U.S. capital in September and again Oct. 22-23 with Mr. Reagan and Mr. Shultz.

Mr. Gorbachev told Mr. Shultz in Moscow on Friday that he would not go to the United States to sign an INF treaty unless the superpowers make tangible progress on strategic weapons and consolidation of the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty.

TASS gave no indication of whether the Soviet leader had modified his position.

Quizzed about Mr. Shevardnadze's trip, a Soviet Foreign Ministry official said "active consultations" were under way with Soviet allies and that contacts

(Continued on page 4)

ture talks with the president and the U.S. secretary of state on key issues of Soviet-American relations."

The TASS dispatch made no mention of a summit or the content of Mr. Gorbachev's message to Mr. Reagan.

The White House simultaneously confirmed Mr. Shevardnadze's trip.

The TASS report was the first Soviet confirmation that Mr. Shevardnadze and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz would meet again. Mr. Shultz's two-day trip to Moscow last week failed to set a date for a superpower summit.

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King receives credentials of 5 ambassadors

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein on Wednesday received the credentials of five newly-appointed ambassadors to Jordan. The five were (clockwise in photos) Mr. Bashir Salim Ibn Faraj of Oman, Mr. Abdul Rahman Abo Hussein of Somalia, Dr. Geremimo Cortes of Argentina, Mr. Ramon Armengol Lopez of Spain and Mr. John Carter of New Zealand.

Attending the presentation ceremonies, which included a guard of honour and playing the respective national anthems of the five countries, were Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid and Foreign Minister Tamer Al Masri.

King attends graduation of security personnel

Later on Wednesday, His Majesty the King, the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, patronised a graduation ceremony of a batch of new recruits of security personnel at the Royal Bodyguard Training Centre.

In a speech on the occasion, the commander of the Royal Bodyguard Battalion outlined the stages of trainings and subjects taught during the training course.

The King then watched some exercises carried out by the graduates. The King then distributed certificates to the graduates

(Continued on page 4)



and prizes to those excelling in their course.

The graduation ceremony was attended by several Royal family members, Prince Ra'd, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, and high-ranking Armed Forces officers and invited guests.

Arab student wounded in Israeli gunfire at Bethlehem protesters

OCCUPIED WEST BANK (Agencies) — Israeli troops shot and severely wounded Palestinian student at the Bethlehem University on Wednesday after student demonstrations there, Israeli police said.

The demonstration by 200 students commemorated the anniversary on Thursday of a 1968 massacre by Israeli troops of 49 residents at the Arab village of Kfar Kassem, Israeli and university officials said.

The student, shot in the head, was taken to hospital in critical condition.

"The university is encircled by troops, and the situation is very tense," university spokesman Mousa Darwish said.

An Israeli army official said the demonstration started at about noon at the university, where Palestinian students threw stones and raised the Palestinian flag.

About 100 students then rushed to the streets of Bethlehem. They erected roadblocks and set tyres ablaze, the army official said.

According to the Israeli version of the events, soldiers fired at the student after demonstrators hurled a petrol bomb at troops and border police on the main street near the university.

Israeli officials said they expected a fresh outburst of anti-Israeli protests this week, the anniversary of the massacre and the Nov. 2, 1917, Balfour Declaration in which Britain pledged to allow a Jewish homeland in Palestine.

Palestinian sources said

U.S. stocks close marginally higher after see-saw trading

NEW YORK (R) — Wall Street's top stocks closed marginally higher on Wednesday as a falling dollar and big losses in foreign markets contributed to a see-saw day.

The Dow Jones industrial average of blue-chip stocks closed 0.33 points higher at 1,846.82, according to unofficial tabulations. It fell 65 points in early trading before rebounding as high as 1,884.

But in the broader market, declining issues led advances throughout the day and finished ahead by a 9.5 margin.

Volume reached 281 million shares on the New York stock exchange in a session that ended two hours earlier than usual.

The dollar slumped to 1,735 West German marks from Tuesday's New York close of 1,757, while it lost more than 2½ yen to 138.30 yen from Tuesday's 140.85.

Currency dealers tried to sell dollars down this morning, but we beat them back... it looks like we're going to be steady, at least for a while," said James Andrews, manager of equity trading at Janney Montgomery Scott.

Several analysts said the market showed signs of regaining control after the crash a week ago Monday and subsequent volatility.

"The market is looking very good. Maybe what we're seeing today is that the people that wanted to sell out have already done so," said market analyst Jon Groveman of Ladenburg Thalh-

manna and Co.

There were no new economic events to explain the rally, which was viewed mainly as a wave of bargain-hunting following last week's steep market decline, including a 50-point fall on the Dow on Oct. 19.

Stock values have dropped by one-third since its high last August.

"Foreign investors tried to sell us down this morning, but we beat them back... it looks like we're going to be steady, at least for a while," said James Andrews, manager of equity trading at Janney Montgomery Scott.

Dr. Ibrahim, touring several states ahead of the summit talks, delivered a message from Algerian President Chadli Benjedid to Saudi King Fahd.

Dr. Ibrahim said that in the absence of an Arab plan for ending the Gulf war, the Arab countries "should channel their efforts into the framework of the U.N. Secretary-General's (bid) to secure a peaceful end to the Iran-Iraq war.

"The main objective of the summit is to find a common position for the Arab World towards the war and put an end to it... and pool our resources within those of the United Nations," Dr. Ibrahim said.

In an interview conducted in Cairo.

Mr. Mubarak on Tuesday sent a message to Kuwaiti Defence Minister Sheikh Saleh Al Sabah with an Egyptian parliamentary delegation, but its contents have not been divulged.

Reports that Egypt has already officially sent 70 air force pilots and support staff to Iran threatened Kuwait were denied in Cairo earlier this week.

Responding to a question as to whether Iran was able to open other fronts with Gulf Arab countries in addition to the front with Iraq, Mr. Mubarak said "Yes, it is very possible."

He cited pro-Iran groups in Lebanon, which he said were receiving assistance

"When danger threatens

(Continued on page 4)

Ibrahimi: Summit's main goal is an end to Gulf war

RIYADH (R) — Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmad Taleb Ibrahimi said on Wednesday that the main objective of the Arab summit in Amman on Nov. 8 would be to find a peaceful end to the Iran-Iraq war.

"The main objective of the summit is to find a common position for the Arab World towards the war and put an end to it... and pool our resources within those of the United Nations," Dr. Ibrahim said.

Dr. Ibrahim said that in the absence of an Arab plan for ending the Gulf war, the Arab countries "should channel their efforts into the framework of the U.N. Secretary-General's (bid) to secure a peaceful end to the Iran-Iraq war.

Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal was quoted by the Saudi newspaper Al Sharq Al Awsat as saying the summit would seek "the adoption of a unified Arab stand toward relations between the Arab states and Iran in light of its stand on the war with Iraq and its aggression on Arab countries that were not party to the war."

It apparently was a reference to the killing of at least four Iranian missiles at Kuwait.

Prince Saud said that differences in attitudes over how the summit should approach the Iran issue did not mean that it would be difficult to adopt a unified party to the war."

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Study: U.S. force in Gulf must include nuclear arms

WASHINGTON (R) — Several U.S. ships now in the Gulf area are certain to be carrying nuclear weapons ranging from sea-launched Tomahawk cruise missiles to B-57 depth bombs, the author of a new study has said.

William Arkin, author of the Nuclear Arms Race at Sea, said the aircraft carrier Ranger, now in the north Arabian Sea, normally carries B-13 and B-61 nuclear gravity bombs in addition to the B-57 depth bomb.

"All aircraft carriers are always nuclear-armed when they're at sea," Mr. Arkin, director of the National Security Programme at the Washington-based Institute for Policy Studies, told Reuters after presenting his study at a news conference.

A Pentagon spokesman, asked to comment, repeated the standard U.S. position: "We don't discuss the presence or absence of nuclear weapons aboard navy ships in any locations."

According to Mr. Arkin, a total of 278 U.S. Navy ships and submarines are currently capable of firing nuclear weapons, includ-

ing all U.S. aircraft carriers, battleships, cruisers and destroyers, and some of the frigates and attack submarines.

Mr. Arkin, whose study was presented in support of a campaign by the environmental group Greenpeace to oppose what they call the naval nuclear arms race, said the presence of nuclear-armed ships in the area was dangerous even though their nuclear weapons are clearly not intended for use in the Gulf.

He said nuclear-armed U.S. ships could become prime targets for Iranian attack if war broke out with the United States.

"With nuclear-armed ships currently mobilised in the Gulf and the Indian Ocean, a conventional conflict or the wrong spark during a crisis could set off a series of events that would activate strategies that will lead to nuclear

war," Mr. Arkin said.

Mr. Arkin said the battleship Missouri, also in the north Arabian Sea to support a policy of escorting 11 Kuwaiti tankers registered under the U.S. flag since July, was equipped with Tomahawks, based on standard navy practice.

The ammunition ship Shasta, part of the Ranger battle group, would also be carrying nuclear weapons, including Terrier surface-to-air missiles and anti-submarine rockets, to supply cruisers and destroyers in the event of hostilities, he said.

The United States has the largest arsenal of naval nuclear weapons with 9,347, about 60 per cent of the total deployed by the five declared nuclear powers and 37 per cent of the U.S. nuclear stockpile, according to Mr. Arkin.

He said the Soviet navy has about 5,400 naval nuclear warheads, or 36 per cent of the total, and 624 ships and submarines capable of firing nuclear torpedoes, missiles and rockets.

Blocking the direct export of Palestinian farm products.

Palestinian farmers in the West Bank and Gaza must export their produce either through Israeli state marketing boards, which control quality, prices and shipping dates, or via Jordan, a circuitous route where quantities are limited.

Two weeks ago, Rabin praised Saudi Arabia, still officially at war with Israel, for giving \$1 million to a United Nations sewage project at the Jabalya Refugee Camp in the Gaza Strip.

Rabin accuses Europe of neglecting Gaza

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin has accused Western Europe of neglecting the Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip and refusing to help improve life for its 650,000 Palestinians.

Israel occupied the strip in the 1967 Middle East war.

"Who will solve the economic problems of Gaza?" Is the world contributing to it? Didn't I talk to the British prime minister and the West German chancellor? I said, 'come and help them.' They said, 'thank you, no,'" Rabin told par-

PLO seeks summit backing for Lebanon camps

KUWAIT (R) — A top Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) official was reported on Wednesday as saying that the PLO would call on next month's Arab summit to help end fighting at Lebanon's Palestinian refugee camps.

Salah Khalaf, number two to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat,

told Al Watan daily the organisation had three goals at the summit opening in Amman on Nov. 8. The first was a common Arab stance on the Iran-Iraq war, which is expected to be the main concern at the summit.

The second was support for

Palestinians in territories occu-

pied by Israel and an end to the three-year-old "camps war" in Lebanon which pits Palestinians against Syrian-backed Lebanese Shi'ite Muslim militiamen.

The third aim was an Arab consensus on a proposed international peace conference on the Middle East.

Mujahedeen-E-Khalq leader Massoud Rajavi announced the formation of the rebel army last June, with strong backing from Iraq. Baghdad reportedly has provided training facilities and staging rounds for the unit's operations as well as headquarters facilities in the Iraqi capital — The Washington Post.

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Rabin accuses Europe of neglecting Gaza

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PROGRAMME ONE

Koran
Programme Review
Cartoons
Children's programmes
Children's Scientific Programmes
Children's Man
Health and Life Social
Arabic News
World News Reports
Programme review
News in Arabic

... 69 A programme on Crown Prince
Arabic Series
Local varieties programme
Arabic film
News summary in Arabic

... 70 Arabic film conid.

PROGRAMME TWO

17:30 Les Reves de Jeannot (Cartoon)
Rue Carnot
L'aventure des planètes (documentary)
News in French
French songs
News in Hebrew
Varieties
News in Arabic

... 71 Most Embarrassing Moments

Didi Evidence
News in English

Feature film "Ghost Story"
Fried Astaire, Melvyn Douglas

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07:00 Light Music
Newspaper
Morning Show

News Summary
Morning Show Concl.

Country Music

Hillsville: The Story of Motown
News Summary

12:00 News Summary

News Summary

Pop Session

News Bulletin

Instrumental

Discovering Music
Concert Hour

News Summary

Instrumentals

Old Favourites

30 Years of American Top

20:00 Twentieth Century

Pop Session

News Summary

Queen Noor chairs meeting of Jerash Festival committee

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Majesty Queen Noor on Wednesday chaired a meeting of the Higher Committee of the Jerash Festival for Culture and Arts, called to conduct a comprehensive assessment of the 1987 festival.

The meeting, held at the Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF), tackled the financial and organisational aspects of the festival held last summer, and the extent of its success on all levels.

In addition, the committee members discussed plans for the coming year and the standard of participating troupes.

At the end of the meeting, it

King condoles EC Commission over Lantini

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein on Wednesday delegated the secretary-general of the Royal Court, Mr. Bassam Al Saket to the European Community (EC) Commission in Amman to offer his condolences on the death of Dr. Romano Lantini, the late head of the delegation.

The speaker of the Upper House of Parliament, Mr. Ahmad Al Lawzi, also called at the EC delegation, along with heads of diplomatic missions in Amman, to offer sympathies.

Dr. Lantini died in Amman on Monday at the age of 54, after serving as head of the EC delegation since 1984.

A memorial mass was held

Rare, delicate inner ear surgery performed

By Elia Nasrallah
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — Electronic devices were implanted in the inner ears of two deaf persons, a Jordanian and a Lebanese, in what is believed to be one of the most delicate and rare operations ever performed in Jordan.

The two patients were said to have suffered from deafness for some years and had sought help from the QASHI, which is now sponsoring their rehabilitation process.

The QASHI has recently conducted a survey in the Kingdom to determine the number of persons with hearing problems and the degree of deafness from which they suffer. In addition, the society has distributed some 500 hearing aids to people free of charge, in the course of helping them to overcome their handicap.

According to Dr. Barghouti, the operation is called a cochlear implant and entails the insertion of a multi-channel 22 electrode device. He told the Jordan Times that the first operation took seven hours and the second, three hours.

Arab federation to review issues in veterinary medicine

AMMAN (Petra) — The Arab Federation of Veterinarians will hold their third meeting at the University of Jordan on Saturday, under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

More than 100 veterinarians from 12 Arab countries and representatives from four Arab and international organisations will take part in the meetings, during which a host of issues in veterinary medicine will be discussed.

A spokesman for the organisers said that nearly 85 working papers will be reviewed, covering veterinary services in the Arab World, developing veterinary curricula at universities, dis-

Industrial exhibit to mark King's birthday

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordan Industrial Estates Corporation (JIEC) will mark His Majesty King Hussein's birthday next month by organising an industrial exhibition at Sahab Industrial City near Amman.

A spokesman said that everything is set for the Nov. 14 opening of the exhibition, in which a large number of Jordanian companies and industrial enterprises will display samples of their products.

The week-long exhibition is designed to highlight locally-manufactured products and to encourage tourists to buy these goods.

Crown Prince urges cooperation between southern Jordan, Sinai

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan has called for establishing cooperation in various fields between the southern region of Jordan and the governorate of Northern Sinai in Egypt, in order to further develop the two regions.

The Crown Prince, who is chairman of the board of trustees of the Royal Scientific Society (RSS), was speaking during a working session which he chaired on Wednesday. The session included a visiting Egyptian delegation from the Sinai region.

Prince Hassan proposed that seminars be held to discuss specialised working papers on projects that could be carried out in both regions.

He added that concerned authorities in Jordan and Egypt can hold a workshop in Aqaba or



Arisib in Egypt to air ideas and perceptions that could serve development efforts.

The Crown Prince also reviewed the projects that could be set up between the two countries, especially in the fields of fishing, Arah development.

The joint session was attended by senior RSS officials and members of the Egyptian delegation accompanying Maj.-Gen. Shash.

Ministry of Education announces experimental teacher training

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Education has announced that an experimental course will start at the beginning of the second school term in February to train teachers for the primary and the preparatory school-stages, as recommended by a national conference on education held last month.

The ministry's secretary-general, Radi Al Waifi, said that the teachers will be trained first at a centre in Amman; later, branches of this centre will be opened in different parts of the Kingdom.

He said that the teacher-training will take place at community colleges and in accordance with a set programme which entails day and evening classes.

In order to be accepted for these courses, teachers should have completed a preliminary teaching course in a community college. They will be awarded Bachelor of Arts degrees upon

completing these advanced courses, Dr. Waifi noted.

Dr. Waifi, who chairs a committee charged with implementing the educational conference's resolutions, said that the committee members have made great progress in carrying out these recommendations.

The announcement followed last Thursday's meeting, held at the Ministry of Higher Education under the chairmanship of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, during which the implementation of the conference's resolutions was discussed.

Prince Hassan urged the Ministry of Education to speed up work on the application of Jordan's new educational policy, as charted by the conference, and expressed hope that 1988 will witness the first steps in the implementation of that policy.

The Crown Prince suggested that a team from the Ministry of

Education work out a plan for recruiting and training a group of teachers to instruct students at the elementary stage on an experimental basis. This, he said, could later be expanded to include the other school stages, within a national programme designed to introduce new techniques and methods into the teaching profession.

Dr. Waifi was quoted by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, as saying that the Ministry of Education will require at least JD 75 million to set up school buildings, so that the country can end the present two-shift class system and give up rented buildings used as schools.

The plan was one of the conference's resolutions, which also dealt with school curricula and textbooks, scholarships and directing education to serve the needs of the nation.

City team eliminating stray animals

By Nermene Murad
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Dogs are a person's best friend and cats are those little fury things that soften our hearts when we see them. But do not be deceived; not all dogs and cats are cute and friendly. This is why the municipality of Amman says it is literally shooting down many of the little creatures.

According to Dr. Barghouti, the operation is called a cochlear implant and entails the insertion of a multi-channel 22 electrode device. He told the Jordan Times that the first operation took seven hours and the second, three hours.

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Supply Ministry will sell rice from storage

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Industry, Trade and Supply announced Wednesday that it will begin selling quantities of rice from its storage houses to retailers in the Kingdom as of today, and that interested merchants can approach the ministry for their purchases.

The ministry decision makes available rice from various sources and of different qualities, along with Egyptian rice already on the market.

There had been complaints from citizens that the Egyptian rice imported by the ministry and sold in the market was of low quality.

The Supply Ministry under-secretary, Abdullah Hawamdeh, denied Tuesday that the Egyptian rice was of low quality and said it

conformed with international quality specifications. He said rice imported from Italy and the United States and stored in ministry silos would soon be made available for retail merchants.

A government official later said that although the Egyptian rice was of an acceptable quality, it was rarely within the established limits.

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Superpowers play dangerous game

PRESIDENT RONALD Reagan and Soviet leader, Mikhail Gorbachev, are obviously playing a brinkmanship game over the proposed INF treaty and their anticipated summit. Much euphoria was generated last summer when U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and his Soviet counterpart, Eduard Shevardnadze, struck a stunning deal in Washington for the elimination of short and medium-range nuclear missiles from their respective arsenals. The good will generated by the agreement between them to scrap such a system of weapons propelled high expectations that a Reagan-Gorbachev summit was in the works, and that it would not be long before the two leaders would sit down to seal the proposed treaty to remove short and medium-range nuclear missiles from the surface of the earth, in addition to discussing other international issues, including the Palestinian problem and the Iran-Iraq war. The recent visit to Moscow by Mr. Shultz, however, was shrouded with gloom and dismay after the two sides announced that they were still far apart on whether to inject the controversial U.S. Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) into the ongoing negotiations on the proposed INF treaty. Now, Moscow seems to have seized the initiative by sending Mr. Shevardnadze to Washington with a message to Mr. Reagan. However, the two superpowers appear to be far apart on fundamental issues. While the U.S. contends that the SDI would make the world safer by making nuclear weapons obsolete, the Soviet Union asserts that such a system of defense would only herald an arms race in space. Meanwhile, the world is holding its breath with great anxiety and anticipation lest the last thread of hope to maintain the right track towards nuclear disarmament break.

Humankind has every right to ask the superpower leaders to maintain the momentum of detente until the world is freed from the nuclear threat. A summit between Reagan and Gorbachev is also an international demand since what is at stake is not only the bilateral relations between the U.S. and the Soviet Union; but, rather, other issues that affect the rest of the world. The superpowers have special responsibilities towards the community of states as a whole, in addition to their duties to their own respective peoples. By virtue of their extraordinary powers, they have become the controllers of the destiny of the world. Seen from this perspective, it would be disastrous if their brinkmanship game continues to the detriment of the rest of the international community. The superpower leaders will derelict their duties to the world if they frustrate the aspirations to conclude the much negotiated treaty to ban short and medium-range missiles. The conclusion of such a treaty would be a mere beginning in the long road towards the elimination of all nuclear arsenals from the surface of the earth.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Rai': Shultz' cover-up

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz tried to cover up for his failure in his talks with Soviet officials in Moscow by coming up with justifications that are clearly designed to hide the facts. This position has clearly proved that Washington is not serious about a U.S.-Soviet summit meeting and attaches no importance to it. In trying to cover up for his failure, Shultz said that Moscow had gone back on its previously declared date and venue for a meeting between Reagan and Gorbachev, but he failed to mention explicitly that Washington wanted to have the meeting between the two leaders without ample preparations at a lower level. Such attitude clearly depicts Washington's behaviour towards various world issues and various conflicts. This attitude is simply a message to the world that a summit meeting between the superpowers was not important as long as Washington feels it is the superpower of the world and that it can dominate the world's destiny. Such mentality and this superiority complex does not reflect a desire for world peace and peaceful coexistence. Such behaviour can never reflect a desire on the part of Washington to embark on meaningful and serious action for improving world conditions and putting an end to all sources of danger and war. If Washington is not interested in holding a summit meeting with Moscow, then it is reasonable to think that it cannot be concerned over world issues like the Middle East or the Gulf conflict. Washington believes that it can alone provide solutions for world problems without any participation from any other parties.

Al Dustour: Egypt concerned for Arab problems

IN an interview President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt had with this newspaper it was clear that Egypt is closely following up developments in the Arab World and that it is keen on maintaining its link with the Arab countries and cooperate with their leaders. The president showed that Cairo was specifically concerned over the Gulf war and the current developments in the Gulf region which is now witnessing an escalation of tension leading towards destruction. Mubarak had issued one warning after another that the Gulf problem entails serious danger, threatening the whole Arab Nation — something which warrants a unified Arab action and solidarity among Arab leaders. He urged the Arabs to rally together in the face of the common external danger and to stop the war from spilling over to other countries in the Gulf. The president showed that he was looking with confidence and hope to the coming Arab summit meeting next month where the leaders of the Arab Nation will be able to discuss all problems plaguing their countries and threatening their future generations. The Egyptian president laid emphasis to the fact that once the Arab leaders have put aside their small differences and pooled their efforts and their resources, they are bound to achieve success. We share with Mubarak his views and his aspirations about the coming summit, and hope that the Arab leaders would rise to the level of responsibility and embark on measures to deal with the common dangers.

A new focus for U.S. foreign policy

By Robert Olsen

THE MOST notable change in the focus of United States foreign policy since the second world war may well take place in the coming decade, and in an area that has generally not ranked high in U.S. foreign policy priorities over the past 45 years — the Middle East.

The major tenet of U.S. foreign policy during the last half century has been anti-Communism and thus anti the Soviet Union. But the two antis are not necessarily coterminous: U.S. anti-Communism also applied to countries not dominated by the USSR, and included Europe (especially in the 1950's and 60's) and the Third World.

Another focus of American foreign policy which has been pursued since the second world war is anti-nationalism, especially in the Third World, but not excluding Europe. In most instances during this period, the U.S. attempted to depict nationalist movements as Communist-inspired, whether they were or not. Only in this decade has the U.S. begun to favour bona fide national, but not necessarily nationalist, governments in order to prevent or impede nationalist, and generally leftist, oriented movements from assuming power. It must be stressed, however, that the national governments in Central and Latin America and in South and Southeast Asia which the U.S. supports are bourgeois, pluralist governments that have agreed to cooperate and to participate in the world capitalist economy dominated by the U.S. Europe and Japan.

But this focus of U.S. foreign policy has been challenged by the Iranian revolution. First, the Iranian revolution has developed into a bona fide nationalist revolution. It is also a religious revolution with appeal beyond its national (Iranian), ethnic (Persian-speaking) and sectarian (Shi'ite) boundaries. Although the Iranian ethnic component of the revolution may act as a restraint on its appeal to some groups in the Middle East and in the Islamic world, its nationalist elements appeal to some of the very groups who may not like its ethnic components. One of the strengths of the Iranian revolution is its multi-faceted appeal which balances some of its contradictions.

All of these factors, and there are many more, present problems for American and European foreign policy makers. The Iranian revolution can in no way be depicted as Communist led or inspired — either by Moscow or internally. Neither can the revolution be depicted as "godless." Try as they might, it is difficult for the U.S. and Europe to extricate Islam from the Abrahamic religious tradition. Attempts to depict Iran and/or Shi'ism in pejorative terms — satanic and barbaric — cannot fully suppress the public perception that the Iranian revolution is, in many ways, a religious revolution. The American public is still not yet psychologically disposed, despite three decades of anti-Arab propaganda, to suppress religiously inspired revolutions or national movements as readily as Communists or supposedly Communist-supported revolutions. Iran has an advantage over the Sandinistas in this regard.

The American, and to some extent European, dilemma in the late 1980s and early 1990s will be to conjure a policy that will suppress or contain a revolution which is: 1) religiously based and pro-God; 2) anti-Communist; and 3) one whose nationalism is strongly based on both the above; i.e., the U.S. and Europe must constrain, limit, and, if possible, suppress or destroy a government which professes and upholds the two major foci of American and European foreign policy for the last 50 years, if not since 1917.

It is unlikely that the Soviet Union would do much to prevent an American or NATO assault on Iran. This would make it clear to the whole world that religious-nationalist revolutions are even more of a threat to the West than Communist inspired revolutions or national movements. One wonders how the non-Western and Third World countries will view these developments.

It seems that fourth focus may now well be added to the anti-Communist, anti-Soviet, anti-nationalist/leftist tenets of American and European foreign policy — anti-Islamism. The Muslim guest workers in Europe and the rising challenges of countries such as Turkey could add to the anti-Muslim sentiment in Europe. The Arab-Israeli conflict and the powerful pro-Israel, pro-Jewish, and Jewish nationalism that it has spawned in the U.S.

has paved the way for an anti-Islamic policy. Indeed, the public seems more in favour of an anti-Islamic policy than some governments. While the Iranians may be the present objective, the anti-Arab, anti-terrorist (read Arab), anti-Palestinian sentiments are now so firmly rooted that an anti-Islamic focus could serve the foreign policy objectives of the U.S., Europe and Israel for the next decade or two. An anti-Islamic focus would be given greater prominence by a Soviet Union concerned more with its domestic agenda.

It seems unlikely, that the U.S. and Europe will launch a sustained military assault on Iran over the issues of the Iran-Iraq war and its spillover into the Gulf. However, a sustained political assault by Iran on Saudi Arabia, which is bound to increase in the months ahead, could change this prognostication. It is somewhat ironic that the U.S. and Europe could see it in their interest to intervene militarily on the side of Saudi Arabia and the Arabs, who after a century of being weakened by their struggle against Zionism, might prove unable to confront the political, religious and, most important, nationalist attacks of Iran. It is a further irony that the Arab World "softened" by a century of confrontation and challenge by Zionism which was avidly supported by the U.S. and Europe, now must seek the aid of those same Americans and Europeans if it is to be able to withstand the challenge of Iranian Islamic nationalism. Saudi Arabian Wahabism, a rather late claimant to the legitimacy of the Islamic *Umma*, seems particularly vulnerable to a sustained religious-political attack. It will demand a firm response — Middle East International, London.

Virtually unknown a year ago, Islamic Jihad has become the most active force fighting the occupation in Gaza and has also mounted attacks in the occupied

Islamic Jihad taking lead in Palestinian resistance

By Paul Taylor
Reuters

GAZA — Four Islamic fundamentalists killed in a gunbattle with Israeli occupation troops in the Gaza Strip this month have become new heroes of the Palestinian resistance.

Their pictures, clipped from the Palestinian press, are displayed in many homes. The exploits of their shadowy group, Islamic Jihad (holy war), have captured the imagination of young dwellers in this teeming coastal strip.

Even a veteran secular left-wing nationalist leader like Dr. Haider Abdul Shafi, head of the Gaza Red Crescent Society whose premises were burned down by Muslim militants in 1981, speaks with admiration of the new Islamic fighters.

The fact that these escaped prisoners opted to stay on and fight rather than run away certainly made a strong impression on the people," he said. "The Jihad has distinguished itself in fighting the occupation."

Four Islamic Jihad gunmen, including two who escaped from Gaza prison in May, were killed on October 6 in a shootout in which an Israeli Shin Bet security service undercover agent also died.

The Israelis have since arrested more than 50 Jihad suspects, found a big underground weapons cache and alleged that the group was behind almost every major attack in the Gaza Strip in the last year.

These included the assassination of the head of the Israeli military police in Gaza City, an ambush on a convoy of Israeli security men in the Jahala refugee camp and the killing of several Israeli civilians.

Virtually unknown a year ago, Islamic Jihad has become the most active force fighting the occupation in Gaza and has also mounted attacks in the occupied

West Bank, Palestinian and Israeli sources say.

Yet the group has no avowed leaders, no public organisation at home or abroad and no clear programme. Followers say it has no connection with the Shi'ite Muslim group of the same name holding Western hostages in Lebanon.

Israeli security sources say Jihad members mostly get their arms, training and funds from Fateh, the main group in the Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO).

But the fighters are provided by a new generation of Sunni Muslim activists who grew up under Israeli occupation.

Experts say Islamic Jihad's strength lies in its appeal to traditional religious values, its rejection of any compromise with Israel and the West and its spirit of self-sacrifice.

"When nationalism becomes affiliated to Islam, it becomes more effective," says Dr. Mohammed Siam, acting head of Gaza's 5,000-student Islamic University.

Three of the Islamic Jihad fighters were students in the faculty of religion and their deaths sparked 10 days of protests in which students and schoolchildren stoned Israeli army troops, built street barricades and burned tyres.

Siam cited three causes of the growth of Islamic resistance in Gaza: A tradition of fundamentalism linked to the Muslim Brotherhood in neighbouring Egypt, the failure of secular nationalism and pan-Arabism to weaken Israel and disillusionment with the Soviet Union and the Palestinian left.

Muslim fundamentalists dominate the student unions at Gaza and Hebron universities and are increasingly challenging secular nationalists for control of other West Bank campuses.

As'ad Saftawi, father of a Gaza escapee who is still on the run,

described how his 23-year-old son turned to fundamentalism after being jailed at the age of 15 and wound up in the Jihad.

"Imad and his friends tried to live out the teachings and the lifestyle of the Prophet literally," Saftawi told Reuters.

"Soon they were working in the underground. They saw no alternative to violence. They thought the PLO was too weak and was going soft on the Israelis," he said.

Last December, Imad Saftawi was arrested and charged with involvement in the stabbing to death of three Israelis in Gaza. He escaped from prison before his trial was completed.

The impoverished, overcrowded Gaza Strip, home to 650,000 stateless Palestinians with no future but low-paid manual labour in Israel, is a fertile breeding ground for such fighters.

By the age of 16, many have stoned occupation troops, tasted tear gas, seen army bullets fly and possibly spent a spell in an Israeli prison camp.

Detention gives them a sense of identity and comradeship and a basic training in fighting the occupation. To have been in Israeli custody is a badge of honour for many a young Gazan.

"They go into that prison camp as uncertain schoolkids and come out as hardened fighters. The Israelis are unwittingly running a school for Palestinian guerrillas," said an international relief worker in Gaza.

A senior Jerusalem Muslim leader, Sheikh As'ad Tamimi, the imam of Al Aqsa Mosque, wrote in a recent article in an Egyptian religious magazine: "The birth of the Islamic Jihad (in Palestine) is the outcome of a divine act... The Jihad sweeps away the state of the Jews and the infidelity it represents."

"Jews, beware, Mohammad's army from Khaibar is returning," they chanted in rhyming Arabic at their trial.

Islamic fundamentalism, which is now turning against the occupation.

They say the Israelis actively encouraged the Muslim revival in Gaza and the West Bank to counter secular nationalism, perceived as the greatest threat to the Jewish state.

For example the Israelis helped increase the number of Mosques in the Gaza Strip from 70 in 1967 to 1987.

For years Islamic organisations and charities have been allowed to receive money from abroad while funds for nationalist bodies were barred.

"In some ways, we fuelled this fire ourselves," said an Israeli security source.

The fundamentalist trend is now so strong that some youths who enter prison as secular Fateh supporters emerge as Islamic militants.

Israeli security officials are alarmed by the mounting Islamic fervour of Arab resistance.

In August, they uncovered an apparent Islamic Jihad plot to detonate a truck bomb in Jerusalem's government quarter, the first known attempt at a suicide bombing in Palestine.

"It's a threatening phenomenon," said General Amram Mizrahi commander of the Israeli army in the occupied West Bank. "The religious awakening is menacing and worry us all."

Islamist Jihad first made news in October 1986 when three fighters carried out a grenade attack on Israeli infantry recruits returning from a ceremony at Jerusalem's Wailing Wall. One person died and 70 were injured.

The attackers claimed to be following the tradition of the Prophet Mohammad, who in the early days of Islam defeated two Jewish tribes at the battle of Khaibar in the year 628.

"Many Palestinians and some Israeli experts say Israel has only itself to blame for the rise of

Iraq ends lull in Gulf war

(Continued from page 1)

Salman Al Khalifa and delivered to him a message from President Saddam Hussein.

Mr. Ramadhan earlier this week delivered messages from the Iraqi president to King Fahd of Saudi Arabia and the emir of Kuwait.

The contents of the messages have not been divulged, but Mr. Ramadhan has been quoted as saying that an "honourable Arab stand" would force Iran to drop its objection to a peaceful settlement in the war.

LETTERS

A word from the critic

To the Editor:

I HAVE been reading Randa Habib's articles and enjoying them. Yet I was alarmed by her attitude towards monuments (Jordan Times, Monday, Oct. 19, 1987).

If one monument, the stone wheel and the water fountain in the Second Circle put her off (the only reason why such a monument looks bad is the bad composition, i.e. the positioning of the wheel too close to the edge of the roundabout) I think she ought to have more maturity than to discard sculpture altogether and more constructive goodwill, considering the fact that our country is in dire need of creativity and innovation and our artist in need of bread. As far as encouraging plantation, I am all for it.

Nelly Lama (Art critic)
Amman.

Moscow revives hopes for superpower summit

(Continued from page 1)

when Mr. Gorbachev was ready to visit the United States "I and the American people will welcome him."

Soviet aides in Washington and Moscow said Mr. Gorbachev was looking for a way to improve chances for a summit this year.

The summit had been widely anticipated until last week when Mr. Shultz said Mr. Gorbachev told him the Soviet leader was not comfortable in agreeing then to a summit without concessions on Mr. Reagan's strategic defence research (SDI) research.

In New York, Mr. Reagan said Wednesday he was "ready to continue and intensify our negotiations" with the Soviet Union.

But he added that a summit was not a precondition for progress on U.S.-Soviet relations.

In a speech prepared for delivery to cadets at the U.S. military academy, Mr. Reagan said that

summit themselves if Mr. Gorbachev did not agree to one soon.

But a Gorbachev aide was quoted by the New York Times as saying the Soviet leader was prepared to meet Mr. Reagan to sign an INF agreement if Mr. Reagan was only willing to fully discuss defensive and long-range missiles.

It quoted the aide, Anatoly Dobrynin, Mr. Gorbachev's top foreign policy adviser, as saying: "There were no preconditions for a summit meeting other than Reagan's willingness to discuss full questions of defensive weapons and deep cuts in long-range missiles."

Mr. Shultz said over



Clues to history in ruins of Ugarit

BY John Rice
The Associated Press

RAS SHAMRA, Syria — A great city died here in flames and fear.

Flames melted limestone to lime, and fear scattered scribes from the oven where they baked their clay tablets. They never returned.

Nobody knows if an earthquake or war caused the conflagration that drove out Ugarit's people 3,100 years ago.

But the thousands of tablets they left amid the ruins have helped modern researchers trace the origins of the Bible and the history of writing itself.

"It is difficult to exaggerate their importance," said Frank Moore Cross, professor of Near Eastern languages and civilisation at Harvard University. "They give us the literature, the mythology, the religion of the Canaanite culture ... which is the background out of which the Israelite religion emerges...."

"It permits us to put Biblical literature in its original context, perhaps better than any other single major find in the ancient Near East," he added in a telephone interview.

Cross said the discovery of the tablets "is on a par of importance with the discovery of the Dead Sea scrolls."

More mundane letters were found as well. "Do not tell your wife where you hide your money," wrote one ancient scribe.

The source of this discovery is an unimposing little hill rising from the citrus orchards of Ras Shamra, 11 kilometres north of Latakia along Syria's Mediterranean coast.

Excavations that have continued since 1929 have revealed a city of narrow, winding streets and sturdy stone walls, of great palaces enriched by a trade in gold, ivory, oil, wine and other goods.

Lizards scamper across the dusty stones where, according to site director Ismail Abdul Haq, as many as 80,000 people once lived.

Although the Mediterranean beach resort of Al Shatt Al Azraq is only two kilometres away, Abdul Haq said that on some days, only 20 people visit the sprawling site.

He guides them through the remnants of massive, two-storey palaces, and into an arched tomb

of finely-cut stones.

In its heyday, at the end of the Bronze Age, about 1500 to 1200 B.C., Ugarit was one of the world's most cosmopolitan cities, according to archaeologists.

Ugarit traded with the Mesopotamian cultures to the east, with Egypt to the south and with Cyprus and Greece to the west.

"They were everywhere along the Mediterranean coast," said Afif Bahnassi, Syria's director of antiquities.

He said they had close links with the Aegean islands and their kings intermarried with Egyptian royalty.

Ugarit's Canaanite culture was an immediate forerunner of the Phoenician cities that sent traders and colonists far across the Mediterranean.

The tablets found at Ugarit,

written in one of the world's earliest alphabets, gave historians a portrait of the Baal-worshipping Canaanite religiosity that has survived, but the clay tablet is indestructible."

Even so, he said alphabet charts found at Ugarit helped prove that the order and names of letters in the alphabet have remained the same from its invention until the present day.

Human volunteers now testing potential AIDS vaccine

By Elan Cates
Reuters

WEST HAVEN, Connecticut —

A possible AIDS vaccine developed by a little-known biopharmaceutical company is being tested on the first human volunteers in a pioneering study.

Microgenesys burst forth from obscurity to become the first — and so far the only — company to win approval from the Food and Drug Administration to conduct human trials of its vaccine.

The first group of homosexual volunteers was vaccinated the first week of October, according to Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID).

NIAID is supervising the testing at its clinical centre in Bethesda, Maryland.

So far, Fauci said, the volunteers have experienced no adverse effects. "We cannot make a projection from that, however," Fauci said.

Microgenesys was founded in 1983 by immunobiologist Franklin Volovitz to develop vaccines and genetically engineered pesticides.

The privately held concern in this small Connecticut town employs just 30 people, has yet to bring a product to market, and has no major corporate backer.

Yet its experimental vaccine, grown in insect cells, made leading AIDS researchers in the country take notice. It produced surprisingly good antibody responses against the AIDS virus in laboratory animals. The next step was to try it on humans.

"There really isn't any danger from the vaccine in terms of a health risk," Volovitz said. He stressed that the vaccine does not contain the AIDS virus, but a purified protein produced by insects that mimics the surface protein on the AIDS virus.

The only side effect volunteers should anticipate, Volovitz said, was some soreness at the site of the injection.

NIAID has released little information about this experiment. It has declined to disclose the number of volunteers vaccinated or exactly when they received the injections.

"We don't want to build false hopes, and we don't want the volunteers harassed," NIAID spokesman Sandy Hecker ex-

plained.

"A total of 60-AIDS-free male homosexuals will be injected with the experimental vaccine over the next six months.

Volunteers must be homosexuals who have either been in a monogamous relationship with an uninfected partner or who have been celibate for the past three months. They must agree to practise "safe sex" while in the study. Volovitz called the volunteers "somewhat altruistic" for subjecting themselves to the experiment.

While he contended there was no immediate health risk, he pointed out that volunteers could face social and economic discrimination, for once the volunteers have received the vaccine, they will always test positive on the standard Elisa test for the AIDS virus, he said.

Under another test, however, the less-used western blot analysis, volunteers would be able to prove they were not AIDS-infected.

"They are very well aware of the possibility of discrimination," Fauci said. "We are trying to counter that."

Volunteers each receive a letter with a notary's seal attached to a copy of his western blot, explaining that he is part of the NIAID experiment, Fauci said.

He said NIAID made calls to insurance companies and employers to see if they would respect this documentation, and they agreed they would.

Travel overseas could present problems, though, since several countries refuse to allow anyone testing positive for AIDS to cross their borders.

If the Microgenesys vaccine proved promising and the tests were widened, Fauci said volunteers would be provided with a credit card with a hologram to prevent a black market from developing. Fauci said NIAID was already working on such a plan with the Bureau of Engraving.

Other possible health risks to volunteers might include an allergic reaction to insect bites, because the vaccine carries traces of insect protein, or another possible reaction by the immune system.

In addition, volunteers may not be able to receive another kind of AIDS vaccine in the future. It is possible a second vaccine might provoke an antibody response.

Randa Habib's Corner

Rain to order

DID YOU know that an agreement was signed this week between the Department of Meteorology and an American company for cloud seeding to induce rain?

I find this amazing. To be able, by dispersing chemical substances into the atmosphere, to induce rainfall. Imagine that, from now on, we can have rain on order. Committees would meet and decide on how many rainy days we will have this winter season. I wonder if it would be possible to have five rainy days and a sunny, warm weekend. That would be thoughtful. Maybe rain will be distributed in certain parts of the country on certain days. Maybe we will have rain, for example, in Shmeissani when it is sunny in Jabal Al Hussein, or rain in Jabal Al Hussein when it is sunny in Jabal Amman, and so on. A shift system would have to be worked out in order to be fair to everybody. It should also be possible for people to have special requests. If someone has a party and wishes his or her guests to arrive comfortable without being showered, he or she can apply for a clear day over his or her garden.

One can go on and on with such fantasies. But the best thing about this new agreement is that one can now rest assured that the Department of Meteorology will get its forecast right. After all, it is the department itself that would "rain" on us and it would be a shame if they made messy forecasts.

African women still getting a poor deal

By Brian Killen
Reuters

DAKAR — African women are delivering hard-hitting speeches, forming cooperatives, and demanding recognition.

But the wold feminist hardly exists in Africa and some delegates at meetings organised by the Socialist International in Senegal this month preferred to be known as female militants.

Visiting activists from the Socialist International women movement nevertheless had no doubt that they were meeting kindred spirits getting a particularly raw deal from Third World society.

Senegalese Minister for Social Development Moustapha Guene, one of three women in the Socialist cabinet of President Abdou Diouf, made an impassioned speech in which she said women were the most important part of society.

The minister, wearing a magnificent traditional robe with a matching turban, struck a more moderate tone later in an interview with Reuters, saying that women and men were complementary.

Women were especially important to rural communities, she said. U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation statistics showed that 42 per cent of farmers in 82 selected countries were women and the figure was probably higher for Africa.

A working day of 14 hours was not uncommon, for example, for

Teaching teachers in northern Pakistan

By Josephine MacFadden

Since 1984 a dedicated Pakistani professor has been helping school teachers in the isolated northern reaches of his country to do their jobs better. An evaluation team describes the experimental training programme he operates for the Aga Khan Foundation as "extremely useful" and worthy of replication elsewhere. The following article is reprinted from the magazine of the Canadian International Development and Research Centre, IDRC Reports.

PROFESSOR Muhibur Hussain Shah's enthusiasm and commitment to his work are paying off. He has lived in the northern Pakistani city of Gilgit and has run the Field Based Teacher Training Programme from there since 1984.

"After my initial demonstration class," he explains, "I gather the teachers-in-training for their first impressions of the new teaching methods I have been demonstrating. What are the differences? I ask them. It usually takes them a few moments before one will say, 'There's no stick.' Exactly! I say. Then I have them there.

"They can't help noticing that I have achieved discipline, and an atmosphere of participation and learning without the use of physical violence, or the traditional method of unison chanting of information."

The experimental training



Pakistani teachers are advancing beyond the traditional philosophy of "spare the rod, spoil the child".

(Photo by Jean-Luc Ray)

programme is jointly sponsored by the Aga Khan Foundation and the Pakistani Department of Education. The Aga Khan institutions began working in the northern areas of Pakistan in 1945, when, with the help of a large donation from its Ismaili leadership, it opened several schools. Since then it has worked diligently to fulfill its leader's instructions to educate children, especially girls, for whom there were previously no schools at all.

The northern areas are rugged and isolated. They lie at the intersection of four of the world's highest mountain ranges — the Himalayas, Karakoram, Pamirs, and Hindu Kush — and border Afghanistan, the USSR, China,

and India. About 90 per cent of the population lives by subsistence farming, and the literacy rate of 10 per cent is less than half the national average.

Gilgit is the main city of the northern areas. Until the paving of the historic silk road to China in the past decade, it was isolated — except for the intrepid traveller willing to follow the winding dirt road suspended on the cliffs high above the Indus River. An airstrip has given mountaineers and other tourists access to the region, but fog often disrupts flights.

A research team from the Quaid-i-Azam University was funded by IDRC to evaluate the field-based teacher training pro-

gramme in this area. To this day there are virtually no roads linking the valleys, so in order to visit isolated schools, team members had to travel by jeep, horse, or yak, or on foot.

Such isolation mitigates against the teaching profession. Few

teachers from the northern areas have had formal training. They simply begin to teach in the local village schools when their own schooling is completed. The methods by which they were taught become their own.

In order to break traditional teaching habits, the Aga Khan field-based method calls for teachers to be transferred to different village schools for nine months. During this time they are constantly supervised by a master teacher. Special manuals provide them with lesson plans and suggest appropriate techniques.

The teachers are encouraged to "use local events as learning experiences and aids, to get pupils more actively involved in learning through various practical activities and questioning patterns rather than rote memorisation, to systematically evaluate pupil learning, to abstain from punishment and to use Urdu as the language of instruction."

Prof. Z.A. Ansari is director of the national Institute of Psychology at Quaid-i-Azam University in Islamabad and led the evaluation project. His report is highly critical of the system of teacher training throughout Pakistan — one which has been in place since independence. He calls it "one of the most neglected areas of education."

Although Pakistan's 87 teacher training institutes have a capacity for 26,000 teachers, they are far from full. About 14 per cent of male teachers and 25 per cent of female teachers enter service untrained.

The report argues that, for those who receive training, the standard one year is not enough. Furthermore, the lecturers themselves are not adequately trained and the "curriculum could do with a lot of improvement." There is too much theory and not enough emphasis on the art of teaching, the report adds, and trainees are not given satisfactory instruction on how to motivate children or deal with behavioural problems.

It was against this backdrop of criticism of Pakistan's overall teacher training system that Prof. Ansari's team evaluated the Aga Khan field-based training programme. The researchers specifically examined the backgrounds, attitudes, perceptions, and classroom skills of the participating teachers, as well as their students' learning behaviour, in order to assess the programme's impact on teaching quality.

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC NEWS GRAPHIC

THE GREAT LAKES

The Great Lakes hold some 6 quadrillion gallons of fresh water—one-fifth of all the surface fresh water on earth and 95 percent of all the surface fresh water in the United States.

About 8,000 persons suffer bites from all venomous snakes in the United States each year, but only 10 to 15 die.

Sales of tofu "ice cream," the most successful soy food ever introduced in the West, have grown more than 600 percent in the past two years.

Thirty people from four generations of the Newar community in Nepal may share a two- or three-story house, with live stock and stored produce occupying the ground floor.

Drawings by Stokes Wakesby © National Geographic Society

Halloween,
dare you open
your door!

SATURDAY
NIGHT

The days are shorter, the nights are colder but ghoulish things are happening in Al Rababa's cauldron.

Where games, prizes and food have that spellbinding touch for a magical JD 5.000 per couple.

Don't be too scared to venture out and miss the enchantment. Why not have a fiendishly good time?

Halloween Party Tonight
at the RACT
8:30 pm entrance JD 3.500



Sixty Years of Hospitality 1927-1987

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For reservation call 660100

Finnish, Italian drivers cruise into victory in Pharaohs Rally

GIZA, Egypt (R) — Finland's Ari Vatanen, driving a Peugeot 205 T16, took first place in Cairo's 5,089-km (3,180-mile) Pharaohs Rally to win the \$5,000 prize on Wednesday.

Italian rider Alessandro de Pietri, on a Cagiva Elefant, won the motorcycle event and collected a similar cash prize offered by French and Egyptian organisers.

"It was a very nice rally," Vatanen told reporters by the pyramids as he drank a glass of milk after crossing the finishing

line with co-driver B. Berglund of Switzerland at the end of the 11-day rally.

He said he hoped to take part in next year's competition, but had not yet taken a final decision.

Peugeot Talbot sport entered Egypt's only rally for the first time this year with three 205 T16s, but only two completed the event.

Kenyans Shekar Metha and Mike Doughty suffered injuries last week in the rally's most serious accident when their car struck a hump near Bahariya in the Western Desert, 440 km (275 miles) southwest of Cairo.

Organisers said Belgian Jacky Ickx, in a team fielding two Lada Poch Nivas, dropped out of the rally for technical reasons.

Ickx was the second well-known competitor to abandon the race after Italian Franco Picco, who won the motorcycle event.

Soviet horses to stride in U.S. races

LAUREL, Maryland (AP) — It had been 21 years since Nikolai Nasibov last saw Laurel race course, where as a jockey he proved he could race competitively with Americans.

Nasibov has returned to Laurel as a trainer and is out to prove the two Russian horses in his care can race competitively in America as well.

One of those horses, Gjatsk, will run in the \$750,000 D. C. International Turf Race Saturday at Laurel, near Baltimore. The other, Star, will run in another turf race earlier that day.

"A lot of things have changed from when I was here in Baltimore 30 years ago," said Nasibov. "Baltimore has gotten 30

times bigger and better."

As a jockey in the 1950s and '60s, Nasibov rode in the D.C. International at Laurel eight times, finishing second in his final ride aboard Amline in 1966.

First impression

"When we first came to United States, the Americans didn't think much of us," Nasibov said. "But then the competition was provided (by the Russian horses) and then they take us seriously."

Nasibov, 57, is taken very seriously among Soviet horsemen. He has won the Russian Derby 16 times — eight as a rider and eight as a trainer. The past 10 years, he has been the leading

trainer in the Soviet Union.

Bringing Nasibov, a well as Gjatsk and star and two Russian riders, to America is considered a major triumph by Frank de Francis, the owner of Laurel.

Gorbachev's glasnost

"I feel this was an extension of Mr. Gorbachev's policy of glasnost and liberalisation," de Francis added.

The Russian trainer said he is confident about Gjatsk's chances in the 1 and 1/4 mile (2-km) D.C. International.

"Gjatsk will give the other horses good competition," he said. "It is hard to compare because I have not seen the other horses run."

Standing to 73-61.

The official practice for the Japan Grand Prix, Suzuka, 1987, will be held Friday and Saturday, with the final race on Sunday at the Suzuka Circuit in central Japan.

Alain Prost of France, fourth in the season point standings with 46, said, "I still have a chance."

Asked apart from the car what element is most important for victory, Prost replied, "I think the driver who wins the race needs the motivation for the race and a strong will during the race."

North Korea on Oct. 23 asked the IOC to agree to postpone the next round of Lausanne talks on the issue involving the two Koreas until after presidential elections in the South in December.

He told foreign reporters at a briefing: "It now seems clear they will boycott the games."

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Kuwaiti investment company announces big bond issue

KUWAIT (AP) — The Kuwait Foreign Trading, Contracting and Investment Co. (KFTCIC) is lead-managing a bond issue of eight million Kuwaiti dinars (\$28 million) in favour of the Commercial Facilities Co., a company statement said Tuesday. Board Chairman Abdullah Al Qabandi of KFTCIC, one of Kuwait's three leading investment companies, said after the signing of the agreement that the domestic dinar bond issue was "well received and oversubscribed by a broad base of investors." The proceeds of the bond issue, which was joined by the Gulf Investment Corporation (GIC) as colead manager, will be used in financing instalment credit transactions of the Kuwaiti company, he added. The GIC is a Kuwait-based investment conglomerate of Gulf Arab countries with a capital of \$2.1 billion. The bonds will be issued in bearer form with a denomination of 5,000 dinars, the KFTCIC statement said. It added that the issue price of the bonds is 100.5 and the 7.75 per cent coupon is payable annually on Nov. 10 commencing 1988. The bonds which mature in 1992 will be listed at the Kuwait Stock Exchange and the KFTCIC will maintain a secondary market, the statement said. A syndicate of 13 Kuwaiti banks and financial institutions will act as ordinary co-managers. The KFTCIC announcement brings the total of Kuwaiti dinar bond issues this year to 115 million dinars (\$403 million.)

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following were the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One Sterling	1.7115/25	U.S. dollars	Canadian dollar
One U.S. dollar	1.3165/75	West German marks	Dutch guilders
	1.7490/7500	Swiss francs	Belgian francs
	1.9670/80	French francs	Italian lira
	1.4390/4400	Japanese yen	Swedish crowns
	36.46/51	Swedish crowns	Norwegian crowns
	5.8650/8700	Danish crowns	
	1265/1267		
	138.95/139.10		
	6.2175/2250		
	6.5025/75		
	6.7130/80		
One ounce of gold	479.50/480.00		U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — U.K. equities were nervously weak in late trading after an early 65-point drop on Wall Street, but dealers noted some buying when the FTSE 100 share index dropped through the important chart resistance point of 1,600.

At 1530 GMT the FTSE 100 stood a net 81.3 points (4.8 per cent) down at 1,622.0 after touching a low of 1,598.0 within half an hour of the Wall Street opening.

This is the lowest the index has been since mid-November 1986 and dealers say it might yet fall below the Oct. 27, 1986, "high bang" day closing of 1,586.2.

Despite London's apparent resistance to falling below the FTSE 1,600 level, most dealers seemed to think that such chart levels lent only short-term support in current market conditions and that a sustained slide in New York and the Far East could see London plunge further.

Wednesday's slide gathered pace when the U.S. dollar tested new lows in Europe in spite of heavy intervention by most Western central banks.

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1987

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

From the Carol Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: This is a day when you would be wise to hold your tongue and think about what you are going to say.

Try to set your objective in your everyday activities. Keep your poise and self-control.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) You can have a good time of an entertainment with friends, but don't stay out too late tonight as you'll need some rest for tomorrow.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Get through your daily activities quickly this morning. Be sure to avoid any arguments, especially with those who are in power.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Attend to correspondence which has been neglected for far too long. Do a special favor for your mate, even though you may not enjoy it.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Be wary of a movement who is after your assets. Rely on your intuition, which is working considerably better than usual.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) A civic matter which has been troubling you can be resolved easily today. Be very cautious while driving today, and watch for reckless drivers.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Don't be disturbed by constructive criticism today. If you lose your temper, your mate will note it as a character flaw.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) A return may be critical of you, but take it constructively — there may be some validity in what this person has to say to you.

YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY He or she will have a little trouble relating to others at times, so you should concentrate on teaching him or her to understand that other people have different points of view. If a good education is provided, your progeny could be highly successful in business.

"The Stars impel: they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you! © 1987, McNeaugh Synd.

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1987

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Let people around you know that you are comfortable with present conditions, but are also open to changes. Progressive friends can play a major role in assisting you in attaining your goals.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Join with some good friends and have a great night out. Show some enthusiasm in your daily activities and get much better results.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You can improve your business interests by using more modern methods. Accept advice from those who have been successful.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Use your imagination in daily business activities — don't rely on "old hat." If you meet with disappointment, don't let it ruin your day.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Spend time with your mate and be quite attentive. He or she needs some cheering up. Don't let business interfere with pleasure.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Many new and unexpected situations will arise today, so be alert and take advantage of them. Suggest an advantageous agreement to a partner.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Stop living in the past! You can improve your life domestically, socially and also in the business world by simply keeping up with the times.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) A long-sought-after pleasure will finally be available to you. Be more romantic with your mate, and you'll

Share prices drop again, dollar slides

LONDON (Agencies) — A tentative global stock market rally faltered on Wednesday as share prices slumped in Europe and Asia and the dollar fell to its lowest value since mid-1980. The price of gold jumped.

The dollar slid below 1.75 West German marks and 139 Japanese yen and only coordinated buying by the U.S., Japanese, West German, British, Swiss and Italian central banks kept it from sliding further, dealers said.

West German shares plunged as much as 9.4 per cent, London and Paris stocks fell nearly five per cent and Japanese shares traded in Europe fell nine per cent after the Tokyo market had already dropped 1.1 per cent.

In London, the benchmark Financial Times Stock Exchange 100-share index fell as much as 89.4 points, or 5.2 per cent, to hit a morning low of 1,613.9 — its lowest since December.

Leading West German shares fell as much as 9.4 per cent in Frankfurt. The Boersen-Zeitung index dropped 5.3 per cent, to 311.91, its lowest this year.

The Paris Bourse indicator fell 4.74 per cent by mid-morning. In Zurich, the All Share Swiss index opened 2.1 per cent, or 18.7 points, lower at 878.4, although some shares dropped as much as 10 per cent.

Amsterdam's All Share Trend index dropped two points, or 2.7 per cent, to open at 71.9. The Milan Stock index dropped 1.5 per cent. Spanish and Swedish shares also fell.

Tokyo shares have so far weathered the global stock market crisis fairly well, falling by just over 14 per cent since "Black Monday" on Wall Street on Oct. 19. But dealers fear a lower dollar could slash companies' export sales and even set off a Japanese recession.

"We've known for a long time that Japanese shares are trading at their highs on the prospect of future growth, but if we do get a deep recession, Japanese shares could go sharply lower," one London dealer said.

And, while Economic Planning Minister Tetsuo Kondo said Japan is ready to take up the slack and act to boost a sluggish world economy if U.S. growth slows, investors are increasingly worried that governments are not moving decisively enough.

"We're getting seasick, and this is going to continue until we get some definitive information on American taxes and the budget deficit," a Paris dealer said.

Dealers fear investors' patience is wearing thin as President Reagan and congressional leaders try to hammer out a programme to solve basic economic problems in the United States.

Their concern was translated into massive dollar selling, as it slumped 1½ pence and 2¾ yen to lows of 1,748.5 West German marks and 138.75 yen.

Central bankers, in an international, coordinated campaign, had to step in and buy dollars to keep the U.S. currency from going into a tailspin, dealers said.

The dollar has not been so low against the mark since early 1980, when at the height of the Iran hostage crisis, soaring inflation and interest rates devastated the American economy and doomed President Jimmy Carter's bid for re-election.

The exchange, which faces defaults by brokers and customers, received a two billion dollar rescue package from the government and a bank group on Sunday but it needed more after Monday's sharp slide.

Mr. Zhang said the bank would continue to accept shares as collateral for new loans to investors to ease pressure on margin calls.

Some other banks had stopped the practice after trading was suspended for four days last week following a 420-point setback on Oct. 19.

Brokers and stock analysts said rescuing Hong Kong's market was vital to the interests of China, which regains the colony in less than 10 years.

"Hong Kong's stability is vital to Chinese interests. We could all see the impact of the stock plunge on confidence here in the past week," said a broker, who declined to be identified.

China was also Hong Kong's largest trading partner with the colony importing \$10.5 billion worth of goods last year — an important source of foreign exchange for Peking.

Some analysts say that trading losses suffered by securities firms may be mitigated by a hike in commissions due to heavy trading and a rebound in the bond market.

"I wouldn't lose sight of the fact that some of these firms had rallies in their bond business," said Mr. Frank Desantis of Smith Barney.

Wall Street's plunge came at a bad time for a number of securities firms already suffering from a slump in bond prices during the second quarter. Because of this, those firms' shares were already trading at a lower level before last Monday's crash.

If this is so, securities firms could be facing steep losses.

On Monday, L.F. Rothschild Holdings Inc., parent of the L.F. Rothschild Co. brokerage firm, said it suffered a \$4 million trading loss this month.

L.F. Rothschild is unrelated to a number of other financial institutions that bear the Rothschild name, including Rothschild Inc., an investment bank in New York.

"They (Rothschild) should be complimented in being forthright. This may be the forerunner of other announcements," said Mr. Perrin Long of Lipper Analytical Securities Corp.

Wall Street's decline also hit Continental Illinois Corp., the Chicago banking company that the federal government rescued in 1984.

Continental said Monday it would absorb \$90 million in losses

in the fourth quarter from its options trading affiliate, which it acquired last year.

Analysts have speculated that of the securities firms hit by Wall Street's plunge, those heavily involved in arbitrage — speculating in stock of companies targeted for takeovers — and over-the-counter trading in smaller stocks may take some of the worst beatings.

Last week's tumult caused many takeover plans to be dropped at the last minute.

Rothschild said Monday the primary cause of its \$44 million loss was speculation on takeover and trading in the over-the-counter market.

The firm said it would lay off 15 of its 2,000 employees, place strict limits on its arbitrage operations, and end its municipal bond trading business.

Some analysts have already begun lowering their earning estimates for securities firms to take into account trading losses for the month of October.

Shares of securities firms suffered badly last week. Rothschild, E.F. Hutton and Painewebber were among the 15 stocks hardest hit on the New York Stock Exchange. Rothschild's shares lost 51 per cent of their market value. Painewebber fell 40 per cent and E.F. Hutton lost 44 per cent.

Some analysts say that trading losses suffered by securities firms may be mitigated by a hike in commissions due to heavy trading and a rebound in the bond market.

"I wouldn't lose sight of the fact that some of these firms had rallies in their bond business," said Mr. Frank Desantis of Smith Barney.

Wall Street's plunge came at a bad time for a number of securities firms already suffering from a slump in bond prices during the second quarter. Because of this, those firms' shares were already trading at a lower level before last Monday's crash.

If this is so, securities firms could be facing steep losses.

On Monday, L.F. Rothschild Holdings Inc., parent of the L.F. Rothschild Co. brokerage firm, said it suffered a \$4 million trading loss this month.

L.F. Rothschild is unrelated to a number of other financial institutions that bear the Rothschild name, including Rothschild Inc., an investment bank in New York.

"They (Rothschild) should be complimented in being forthright. This may be the forerunner of other announcements," said Mr. Perrin Long of Lipper Analytical Securities Corp.

Wall Street's decline also hit Continental Illinois Corp., the Chicago banking company that the federal government rescued in 1984.

Continental said Monday it would absorb \$90 million in losses

since last week's Wall Street crash.

Mrs. Marti Easterbrook, an IBM spokeswoman, said the computer company had been buying back its own stock under a \$2.5 billion programme initiated 19 months ago.

"We continue to believe that IBM shares are a good long-term investment," she said in explaining the further purchases.

Major companies including Ford Motor Co., USX Corp and Merrill Lynch and Co. Inc. have been buying their stock to take advantage of the sharp fall in prices since the market slumped.

IBM said the stock purchases would take place from time to time, giving no specific timeframe.

IBM stock rose by \$4 to \$116 a share after the news, which also helped to push the Dow Jones industrial average higher on Tuesday. The stock was as much as \$175.875 earlier this year but fell to a low of \$102 after the market collapse.

At the current price, the purchase would total around 8.5 million shares. IBM noted that it launched similar buybacks in 1986 and earlier this year, totaling 19 million shares.

Israel Army Radio reported that Israeli concern about a possible cut in aid began before last week's stock market crash. Israeli officials believed the United States might activate the Gramm-Rudman amendment which calls for across-the-board cuts in foreign aid to help balance the U.S. budget. The law could cost Israel between \$23 and \$70 million, the Army Radio said.

Israel volunteered to give up millions of dollars in aid in 1986 after the United States announced its intention of applying the law.

But the daily Haaretz reported that this time Shamir and Peres were both determined to fight for the entire aid package.

Lebanese lira nears reaching 600 to dollar

BEIRUT (AP) — The Lebanese lira plunged to an all-time low of 600 to the U.S. dollar Wednesday, reflecting the deepening economic crisis that has sent prices skyhigh in the war-plagued nation.

Once the soundest currency in the Middle East, the lira was fixed at 600 to the dollar by the central bank, but private money changers set rates as high as 675 to the dollar.

To prevent a further slide gunmen of the Amal militia forced exchange shops in the southern port city of Tyre to close.

A group of about 30 Amal militiamen marched through the market firing their automatic rifles in the air ordering the moneychangers to close shop, local newsmen reported.

The United States has earmarked \$3 billion in civilian and military aid for Israel this year.

Despite Mr. Pickering's statement, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir urged Israeli leaders not to speak out about the U.S. economic crisis and its possible effect on aid to Israel.

Sham

